Statement on House of Representatives Passage of Federal Budget Legislation May 18, 2006

The House's vote to pass a responsible budget marks a positive step toward controlling Federal spending. This Budget Resolution helps enforce spending discipline and moves us in the right direction to fund our Nation's key priorities. I congratulate Chairman Nussle, the House leadership, and all Members of the House who voted for this budget for their hard work and commitment to spending restraint.

Message to the Congress on Continuation of the National Emergency Protecting the Development Fund for Iraq and Certain Other Property in Which Iraq Has an Interest May 18, 2006

To the Congress of the United States:

Section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1622(d)) provides for the automatic termination of a national emergency unless, prior to the anniversary date of its declaration, the President publishes in the *Federal Register* and transmits to the Congress a notice stating that the emergency is to continue in effect beyond the anniversary date. In accordance with this provision, I have sent the enclosed notice to the *Federal Register* for publication. This notice states that the national emergency declared in Executive Order 13303 of May 22, 2003, as expanded in scope by Executive Order 13315 of August 28, 2003, and modified in Executive Order 13364 of November 29, 2004, is to continue in effect beyond May 22, 2006. The most recent notice continuing this emergency was published in the Federal Register on May 20, 2005 (70 FR 29435).

The threats of attachment or other judicial process against (i) the Development Fund for Iraq, (ii) Iraqi petroleum and petroleum products, and interests therein, and proceeds, obligations, or any financial instruments of any nature whatsoever arising from or related to the sale or marketing thereof, or (iii) any accounts, assets, invest-

ments, or any other property of any kind owned by, belonging to, or held by, on behalf of, or otherwise for the Central Bank of Iraq create obstacles to the orderly reconstruction of Iraq, the restoration and maintenance of peace and security in the country, and the development of political, administrative, and economic institutions in Iraq. Accordingly, these obstacles continue to pose an unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security and foreign policy of the United States. For these reasons, I have determined that it is necessary to continue the national emergency protecting the Development Fund for Iraq, certain other property in which Iraq has an interest, and the Central Bank of Iraq, and to maintain in force the sanctions to respond to this threat.

GEORGE W. BUSH

The White House,

May 18, 2006.

NOTE: The notice is listed in Appendix D at the end of this volume.